

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Salvation and Love of the Truth

In warning the Thessalonians about the man of sin, the falling away, Paul wrote, “And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved” (2 Thessalonians 2:10). He further wrote of those same individuals, “That they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness” (2 Thessalonians 2:12). Notice that those who are damned neither “received the love of the truth” nor “believed the truth.”

In order to be saved, two of the prerequisites are: a person must love and believe the truth. Not *loving* the truth is one thing that will cause people to be lost. Likewise, not *believing* the truth leads to condemnation. As did Pilate, we must ask, “What is truth?” (John 19:38) Dictionary.com defines truth as, “the true or actual state of a matter; conformity with fact or reality.” Jesus has placed a premium on truth in connection with freedom (salvation) from sin. John records, “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed in Him, “If ye continue in My word, then are ye My disciples indeed; and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:31-32). In connection with that, Jesus referred to Himself as “the truth” (John 14:6). Conversing with Pilate, He said, “Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Everyone that is of the truth heareth My voice” (John 18:37). Of Jesus, John wrote, “And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). Notice what the above passages from John’s Gospel teach us about Jesus and truth:

- Truth can be known (John 8:32)
- Knowing the truth will set you free (John 8:32)
- Jesus is the truth (John 14:6)
- Jesus bore witness (testified) of the truth (John 18:37).
- Jesus is full of truth (John 1:14)

Truth is “the actual state of a matter.” However, there are those who will “exchange the truth of God for a lie” (Romans 1:25). Some will “not obey the truth” (Galatians 3:1). Some will consider you an enemy if you tell them the truth (Galatians 4:16). Others are “destitute of the truth” (1 Timothy 6:5). There are those who are “never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2 Timothy 3:7). Some resist the truth (2 Timothy 3:8). The point is clear—the Bible speaks to the fact that people deny truth/reality. For many in the world, truth is subjective and determined only by circumstances. Instead of using the word “truth”, use the word “reality.” Reality is not subjective nor is it dependent upon circumstances. Reality is! Truth is!

What does the New Testament say about truth?

God’s judgment is according to truth (Romans 2:2); ***Love rejoices in truth*** (1 Corinthians 13:6); ***Truth must be spoken*** (Ephesians 4:15); ***God desires that all men come to know the truth*** (1 Timothy 2:4); ***Truth must be handled properly*** (2 Timothy 2:15); ***Truth can be acknowledged*** (Titus 1:1); ***Man is born again by the word of truth*** (James 1:18); ***Souls are purified by obeying the truth*** (1 Peter 1:22); ***Truth can be known*** (1 John 2:21); ***Truth must be manifested in behavior*** (1 John 3:18).

Now back to what Paul wrote in regard to loving and believing the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12), the subject was “the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and our gathering together unto

Him” (2 Thessalonians 2:1). There were outside influences who were speaking and writing anti-truths about the return of Jesus (2 Thessalonians 2:2). Paul reassured the believers that they had not missed His return and that several things would occur before Jesus returned. Being deceived was a possibility (2 Thessalonians 2:3) and he wanted them to remember what he told them prior to this letter (2 Thessalonians 2:5). We today do not know everything Paul told the Thessalonians while he was with them, but we can know the truth concerning the return of Jesus. There is a real, future event that will occur at a point when the Father deems it appropriate (Mark 13:32-37). In Paul’s discourse, we also learn that salvation itself is realized when one is sanctified by the Spirit and has come to a “belief of the truth” (2 Thessalonians 2:15). That belief of the truth is realized when one is called by and taught the Gospel (2 Thessalonians 2:14-15).

—Barry O’Dell

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to the Drake family in the loss of **James**. He passed away the morning of January 11th. His funeral services were held at the American Heritage Funeral Home at 2:00 p.m., January 17th. Please keep Joyce and her family in your prayers during this sad time.

Our sympathy also goes out to the family of **LaVern Couch**. LaVern passed away on Monday, January 8th. Her memorial service was held at the West University Church of Christ last Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

Prayer Requests

John Carroll was taken to the ER on Sunday, January 7th. He was diagnosed with a stroke but had the TPA shot which stops the effects of a stroke. Keep John in your prayers.

Truett Thickston (an acquaintance of Kamryn Wesson’s family) underwent a ten-hour surgery to remove a brain tumor. Truett is a high school student in Lamesa, TX. He needs prayers for a successful recovery.

Jim Burson (friend of Shona Wood) is still undergoing tests for a mass that was found on his pituitary gland. He needs prayers.

Prayer List

Mary Anchondo; Maria Baeza; Irene Balerio; Ameer Blumenauer; Mary Brown; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Arthur Campos; Sylvia Campos; LaDonna Chism; Jon Easley; Cathy Eastwood; Daniel Eastwood; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Brent Harrell; Lon & Lana Howard; Connie Jimenez; Vanessa Machuca; Leigh Ann McFarland; Charlene McFatter, Keith Mitchell; Milous Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Inocencio Munoz, Sr; Julie Munoz; Bruce Plyler; K’ Lynn Roberts; Linda Straw; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Lindsey Wells; Carolyn Wilkerson; John Wood; Wilene Wright.

Eisenhower’s Homebound....

Glenna Callendar; Joyce Drake; Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Events

Watch “*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9

Just a reminder: **Jeff Miller, Ph.D.** will be here on April 19th, 20th and 21st to present lessons on “Fossils” deposited in the earth’s foundation proving evidence of God’s creation model. We encourage everyone to attend if at all possible.

Office News...

Ladies, you are invited to a “**Baby Shower**” honoring Kamryn Wesson on Saturday, February 10th at 10:00 a.m. at Bonnie Sorenson’s home. Selections are at Baby List.com and La Bebe. It is suggested in lieu of a baby shower card, to please consider a baby book instead. Come and join in on the fun and celebration.

Why is it Wrong to Worry?

A writer once entitled his best-selling book *How to Stop Worrying and Start Living*, which might be a good title for this article. Is there a need among Christians for a study on worry? There is little doubt about the fact that we do, for most of us spend far too much time worrying either about something that happened yesterday or about something that is almost certainly going to happen today, or about some other thing that may or may not happen tomorrow.

With our Bible open before us, let us consider some reasons why Christians need not worry.

Worry is dishonoring to the Lord. When we worry, we doubt God; and nothing dishonors God so much as when His people fail to believe and trust in Him. Jesus said, “*Therefore do not be anxious for tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own*” (Mt. 6:24) This admonition is preceded by a reminder of God’s loving concern and care for His children which is the basis of our trust in God. Therefore, why worry, knowing that God will provide all the necessities of life? The Christian should not worry about anything, for we have a God who truly cares for us (Philippians 4:6; 1 Peter 5:7).

Worry is damaging to ourselves. There is nothing that works greater havoc in our life than persistent continual worry, fear and anxiety. How often it has been said that it is not work that kills but worry—and how true this is! Worry damages us mentally and physically, but it is also damaging spiritually, for worry will rob us of peace and power and will place a barrier between ourselves and God. Worry paralyzes the Christian’s walk. Prayer and thankful supplications to God enable us to enjoy peace that surpasses all understanding (Philippians 4:6-7).

Worry is detrimental to others. How effective can we be in evangelizing the lost if the world looks at us and sees us full of unbelief, worry and fear? On the other hand, when in the midst of trial, strain and stress, a Christian manifest’s a quiet confidence in God; what a great proclamation this is to the world! How calm Jesus was on the eve of His arrest, trial and crucifixion. As a result, even a Roman soldier was compelled to confess, “*Truly this was the Son of God*” (Mt. 27:54). Do you think a life lived with complete trust in God would have a positive impact upon others?

When we worry, we play right into the hands of Satan. How pleased he is when he sees us worrying instead of trusting God! Worry is a prayer to the wrong god. It is utterly useless and is a foolish, nonsensical and impractical pastime of people. It has never lifted a single burden, solved a single problem, or dried a single tear. Prayer is the supreme remedy for worry, for prayer taps into the unfathomable resources of God. Therefore, “*cast all your anxiety upon him....*” (1 Peter 5:7).

—Roger Johnson

January 21st, 2024

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture Reading
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Allen Weakland
Oliver Hernandez
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Travis Ruckman
Jr. Munoz
Scot Straw

P.M.

Allen Weakland
Jon Roemisch
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Jackie Perkins
Don Easlon
Charles Wood

Lord’s Supper

Gary Loving
Jeff Wesson
Don Easlon
Steve Easlon

Bill Ryan
Communion
(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Allen Weakland 254-8209— *Deacon:* Jacob Carson 940-3775—*Pulpit:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332—*Table:* Bill Ryan 272-5507 — *Song Leaders:* Cody Wesson 934-4646 —*Recording Sermons:* Cody Wesson *Contributions:* Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

“An Eternal Perspective”

(II Corinthians 4:16-18)

Sunday PM

“Dangers of Doubt”

(I Samuel 27:1)

Our Records

Bible Class... 65

Morning Worship...100

Evening Worship ... 69

Wednesday...70

Contribution...\$4,200.00